

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 115807

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, PO

SUBJECT:PERMREPS MEETING ON PORTUGAL

REF: USNATO 2727

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

1. WHILE UNDERSTANDING LUNS' CONCERNS, WE FAIL TO SEE WHAT HE HOPES TO ACHIEVE THROUGH MEETING DESCRIBED REFTEL. NEITHER US NOR, WE BELIEVE, OTHER ALLIES ARE PREPARED TO MAKE ANY RECOMMENDATION TO EXCLUDE GONCALVES IF HE CHOOSES TO ATTEND, AND COSMETIC OR TECHNICAL STEPS TO RESTRICT PORTUGUESE ROLE DURING SUMMIT SEEM INAPPROPRIATE AND LIKELY TO BACKFIRE. ALSO, FACT OF MEETING MAY LEAK. SUBJECT TO YOUR JUDGMENT, WE WOULD WELCOME MISSION TURNING THIS MEETING OFF, PERHAPS IN CONCERT WITH ONE OR TWO OTHER ALLIES.

2. IF MEETING TAKES PLACE, WE SUGGEST YOU TAKE THE LINE

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THAT THERE ARE INDEED VALID CONCERNS ABOUT PORTUGAL'S

ACCESS TO SENSITIVE MATERIALS, AND ITS ROLE AS AN ALLY, AND
THAT THESE ARE HIGHLIGHTED BY GONCALVES' PARTICIPATION IN
SUMMIT. HOWEVER, WE SEE NO PURPOSE IN BELABORING THESE

PROBLEMS WITH REGARD TO SUMMIT, OR IN TRYING TO DEVISE
SPECIAL MEASURES WITH REGARD TO PORTUGAL'S ROLE IN
SUMMIT.

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